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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,489	01/05/2001	Hai Bin Lin	A0-079 US	5108

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MOLEX INCORPORATED
2222 WELLINGTON COURT
LISLE, IL 60532

EXAMINER

LEON, EDWIN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 12/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/755,489

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Edwin A. León

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2003 and 22 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-16 and 18-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-16 and 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment and Request for Continued Examination filed September 22, 2003 and November 17, 2003 in which Claims 1, 10, 18, 21 and 23 have been amended have been place of record in the file as Papers No. 17 and 111703, respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 7-16 and 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,897,386) in view of Kameyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,978,313). With regard to Claims 1, 10, 13 and 18-23, Baxter et al. discloses an electrical connector (10), comprising: a molded plastic housing (30) having an elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48) defining a front mating face (Fig. 3) and a rear terminating face (Fig. 2) of the connector (10), the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section

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48) having a predetermined length and a predetermined width along the entire predetermined length, a terminal-receiving passage (where 48,50 and 52 are located), which extend through the body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48) from the mating face (Fig. 3) to the terminating face (Fig. 2), defined by wall means (42,44), having predetermined lengths and extending between the mating (part from which 30 and 31 protrude) and terminating faces (part of 27 where 20 is mounted), the wall means (42,44) being of generally uniform thickness between the entire predetermined length of the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48); and a plurality of conductive terminals (48,50,52) mounted in the terminal-receiving passage (where 48,50 and 52 are located), and enlarged end portions (outer end 56, end including sections 50, 52 and the three remaining 56) at opposite ends of the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48) having a predetermine width which is greater than the width of the body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48), the width of the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48) and the width of the end portions (outer end 56, end including sections 50, 52 and the three remaining 56) being defined by a dimension (from top to bottom) which is transverse to the terminal-receiving passages (where 48,50 and 52 are located). See Figs. 1-7.

However, Baxter et al. doesn't show wall means defining a plurality of terminal-receiving passages, each of the terminal receiving passages having only one of the plurality of conductive terminals mounted therein.

Kameyama et al. discloses a connector having wall means defining a plurality of terminal-receiving passages, each of the terminal receiving passages having only one of the plurality of conductive terminals mounted therein.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the connector of Baxter et al. by including wall means defining a plurality of terminal-receiving passages, each of the terminal receiving passages having only one of the plurality of conductive terminals mounted therein as taught in Kameyama et al. since it is well known in the art of electrical connectors to use individual terminal-receiving passages in order to prevent short circuits and to provide proper keying between the connector and a mating connector.

With regard to Claims 2 and 11, Baxter et al. discloses the wall means (42,44) including outside walls (walls near ends 32,33). See Figs. 1-7.

With regard to Claims 3, 12 and 14, Baxter et al. discloses each of the end portions (outer end 56, end including sections 50, 52 and the three remaining 56) having a predetermined width which is greater than the predetermined width of the body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48), the width of the end portions (outer end 56, end including sections 50, 52 and the three remaining 56) being defined by a dimension (from top to bottom) which is transverse to the terminal-receiving passages (where 48,50 and 52 are located). See Figs. 1-7.

With regard to Claims 4 and 15-16, Baxter et al. discloses the connector (10) being a combination connector with the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48) including a data section (48) of the connector (10)

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and at least one of the enlarged end portions (outer end 56, end including sections 50, 52 and the three remaining 56) including a power section (52) of the connector (10).

See Figs. 1-7.

With regard to Claim 5, Baxter et al. discloses the terminals (48) being signal terminals and the power section (52) including at least one power terminal mounted therein. See Figs. 1-7.

With regard to Claim 7, Baxter et al. discloses the passages (where 48, 50 and 52 are located) being at least in part defined by outside walls (walls near the ends of 30) of the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48), the walls (walls near the ends of 30) being of generally uniform thickness throughout. See Figs. 1-7.

With regard to Claim 8, Baxter et al. discloses the connector (10) being a combination connector with the elongated body portion (middle part of 30 that connects 56 in the data section 48) including a data section (48) of the connector (10) and at least one of the end portions (outer end 56, end including sections 50, 52 and the three remaining 56) including a power section (52) of the connector (10). See Figs. 1-7.

With regard to Claim 9, Baxter et al. discloses the terminals (23) being signal terminals and the power section (52) includes at least one power terminal mounted therein. See Figs. 1-7.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed September 22, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to Applicant's arguments regarding Claims 1, 10 and 18 that the Baxter et al. reference doesn't show the elongated body portion having a plurality of terminal-receiving passages, it is the Examiner's opinion that one with ordinary skill in the art would modify the connector of Baxter et al. by including wall means defining a plurality of terminal-receiving passages, each of the terminal receiving passages having only one of the plurality of conductive terminals mounted therein as taught in Kameyama et al. since it is well known in the art of electrical connectors to use individual terminal-receiving passages in order to prevent short circuits and to provide proper keying between the connector and a mating connector.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone

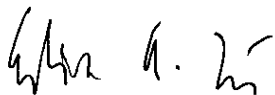
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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin A. León". The signature is stylized with a large "E" and "L".

Edwin A. León
AU 2833

EAL
December 15, 2003